**PREP4PRAC NOTES**

* ***Natalie Baker - 4th Year Prac Student***

*🡪How to write a good lesson plan*  
- Know what your objective is  
- Plan! (E.g. Over plan, plan for the students who may struggle, plan for technology to fail, have a back up plan etc.)  
- Activate prior knowledge (allow for them and your lesson to be successful)  
- Know your students (get to know which student always puts their hand up and finishes first etc. and differentiate for the different students needs)  
- Be prepared (take your own time to make sure the students can have a fun lesson. E.g. come in at lunch to prepare etc.)  
- Be innovative   
*🡪 Once the lesson is over*  
- Return the room to the way it was  
- REFLECT (how successful was it? did you meet your objectives? Did all students understand the concept?)  
- Talk to your supervising teacher (ask for constructive criticism and suggestions etc.)   
- Write your reflection at the end of your lesson ASAP (ideas should be fresh in your mind, write down whether you think they learnt it etc.)  
*🡪 Prac folder*  
 - Divide it up into each KLA (e.g. use different colours for each KLA)  
- Put any lesson plans, resources or anything I’ve used. This way you also have a bank of lessons (e.g. when you’re a relief teacher etc.)  
- Be organised (plastic sleeves or hole punched)  
- Keep all your resources in here for future use   
*🡪 Coming up with resources*  
- Start looking online – there are heaps out there (e.g. Scootle, TES Australia and UK)  
- Connect on twitter and ask others  
- Take anything your supervising teacher gives you. It may come in handy in the future  
- Any suggestions that teachers or supervisors make, keep them and store them  
*🡪 Keeping your sanity*  
- Be organised! (e.g. planners, to do list, diary, calendar)   
- Write down prac dates etc.  
- Prioritise   
- Cut back if you need to  
- Make time to rejuvenate and exercise  
- Have an impeccable diet (I.e. lead by example and attempt not to get sick on prac from young children or if there is a bug going around)  
*🡪 If it doesn’t challenge you, the it doesn’t change you for the better!*

* ***Jeff Mesina – Primary school Teacher****🡪 I AM A TEACHER - Teaching identity*  
  - When do you ‘become’ a teacher? When do you ‘feel’ like you’re a teacher?  
  - YOU ARE A TEACHER (doesn’t matter if you are a student teacher or not – you ARE a teacher)!  
  *🡪 Be Proactive*  
  - lmgtfy = let me google that for you  
  - You need to show you are professional and keen and if it’s as simple as googleing it then do that before hand!  
  - Looking it up before asking!  
  *🡪 Information Overload*  
  - i.e. which teachers do you talk to, who should you be talking to, what should be doing, what are the students names etc.  
  *🡪 Know your goal*  
  - E.g. be confident, learn as much as I can, get to know students, survive   
  - Push yourself!   
  *🡪 Make your lessons explicit*  
  - A lot of detail, the detail was partly to shower supervisors etc. and for yourself  
  - Write down things you’re going to say or maybe what the student MAY respond with   
  *🡪 Positive*   
  - Be positive and kind to the students  
  *🡪 Know your limits*  
  - Have a clear idea, this is the level that I’ll accept for behaviour etc. What will you allow?   
  *🡪 Differentiate*   
  - Different needs of students in your class, address this  
  *🡪 Connect*  
  - E.g. getting to know them, maybe laugh with them, tell them the line they shouldn’t close ‘this line’, make sure they think you understand them   
  - Connect with the staff! Build good relationships, go to the staffroom and do not use your phone but instead chat with other teachers   
  *🡪 Reflect*  
  - This is HUGE  
  - Take a step back and see what went well and why, what didn’t and why  
  - Ask your teacher as well  
  *🡪 Enjoy the journey!!*
* ***Stephanie Adan – 1st Year out teacher***   
  *🡪 Why did I become a teacher*  
  - Inspire students  
  - You CAN achieve these things as a prac student!  
  - Connect with other people, especially those who can help you and give you resources   
  - Connect on twitter!!!!  
  *🡪 Teaching Space on prac*  
  - A lot of open ended tasks   
  - Introduction to space, art spheres in space, taught them (interactively) day and night, creating a model solar system, designing mission patches, If you were stranded on the moon passage/question/activity, teaching about living and working on the ISS, role plays and interviews to see their research, using technology (like apps on ipads in regards to NASA), colonisation of Mars (designing a human colony for Mars), teaching moon phases using oreos, space party, personal interest projects, brought in Australia’s leading Astronomer   
  *🡪 My first classroom! Woohoo! #happydance  
  🡪 plans*  
  - What do you know about plants, tweeted the author of Nims Island, perimeters were taught through making rafts, sketching Van Gough artworks, building a garden, brought in a plant scientist
* ***Tamsin Anderson – 1st Year out teacher*** *🡪 10 tips*  
  *1. Taking the obvious*  
  - Dress seriously! Be at school at 8am, don’t leave before the end of school and don’t leave before saying you’re leaving  
  *2. It’s not you*  
  - Schools are busy places, teachers are busy, don’t take it personally if your master teacher asks you to wait, has to change your lesson schedule, cannot make time to see you right away  
  *3. A lot like being shot out of a canon each day*  
  - You can prepare and should prepare thoroughly, this allows you to be flexible when things change and they usually do. Some lessons may get shortened and remember technology fails  
  *4. Know where the photocopier is!*   
  - Use your observation days to ask for a copy of the school Calender ask if there are paper restrictions, ask for a copy of the program, ask which classrooms you will be teaching in ask about technology  
  *5. Understand your school culture*  
  - Get a school policy straight away!  
  - As soon as you know your school do some research  
  - Find out where you are teaching! Private/public, single sex/co-ed, north, south, east, west  
  - Practice transport!  
  *6. All experiences are learning experiences*  
  - Be open minded, you are stepping into this teachers world and their practice might not be what you like so learn from it  
  - Smile and observe  
  - Save opinions and criticism for a diary!  
  *7. You have a lot to offer*  
  - You have exposure to the new curriculum  
  - You are used to technology and new teaching and learning strategies  
  - You have energy and enthusiasm   
  *8. Reflect, learn, reflect learn*  
  - Keep a reflective journal  
  - Set goals  
  - Read your teachers feedback! And possibly adapt your practice  
  *9. Be prepared*  
  - Always write detailed lesson plans (possibly almost scripts)  
  - Your teacher expects to see lesson plans before the lesson!  
  - The lesson plans are your guide and insurance, build in flexibility, know your plan and you can adapt!  
  *10. Be kind to yourself*  
  - Take your lunch (make it a good one), get a good sleep and don’t forget to eat and go to the bathroom during the day!  
  - You won’t be leaving the school, remember!  
  - It’s a long journey but students make it worth it, nobody expects you to know everything, ask questions!  
  - You make your own opportunities!   
  - Have YOUR rules (e.g. no one speaks while others are speaking, wait until full attention is given)
* ***Michael Cavanagh – Lecturer at Macquarie University***  
  *🡪 Why some teachers choose to mentor PSTs*  
  - We asked teachers why they decided to have a prac student:  
  - So they can learn from you 🡪 so be creative!  
  - To see their students differently 🡪 develop your own style!  
  - Because they appreciate your help and support 🡪 get involved, volunteer   
  - Mentoring is an incentive to do their best 🡪 acknowledge how much you are learning from them!  
  - To give back to the profession 🡪 say thank you!  
  *🡪 Developing a reflective practice*  
  1. Notice! What is the teacher doing, and what’s the impact of that on student learning?  
  2. Reflect! Analyse what you’ve seen, evaluate (was it successful?)  
  3. Imagine alternatives! Why didn’t it work? What can I do differently next time? Imagine possibilities   
  4. Act! Implement, try out new ideas, if this didn’t work what can I try out next time? Experiment with new approaches   
  *🡪 Enjoy the experience!!!*

* ***Q&A***

- Don’t worry; your prac teacher is there to help you (e.g. a few days in advance will review your lesson plan and help you change it if need be etc.)  
- Research both syllabi and ask teachers which they are following   
- Have both syllabi with you!  
- Establish ground roots on your first lesson and set rules  
- Know their names and know something about them!!!!!  
- ‘Treat others how you would like to be treated’ ‘are you actually treating *me* your *teacher* well and with respect?’  
- Bringing guest speakers in – check background of the speaker and talk to your supervising teacher (and if they’re happy) then your principal   
- Teach from the back of the room when they are using technology so you can see their screens! Walk around the room and be mindful!